

1. Business Plan And Technical Assistance

- ☐ **Draft A Business Plan**
- ☐ **Seek Free Technical Assistance**

A business plan should clearly and concisely describe your business, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Products and/or services to be provided
- Target clientele
- Cost of goods/services and Projected Profits

For information and assistance with your business plan, please contact the **Merrimack Valley Small Business Assistance Center (MVBC)**. The MVBC is an excellent resource for business start-ups. MVBC provides one-on-one technical assistance to start-ups and existing small businesses as well as several workshops on useful business topics such as business planning. For more information contact the **Merrimack Valley Small Business Center (MVBC)**: <http://www.merrimackvalleysmallbusiness.com>

Merrimack Valley Small Business Center (MVBC)

88 Middle Street, 2nd Floor

978-322-8400

In addition to the MVBC, there are several local and regional resource partners that provide free one-on-one technical assistance:

Service Center of Retire Executives (SCORE) is a national non-profit comprised of a network of business leaders and retired executives who volunteer their time to provide free and confidential counseling and mentoring to small businesses and start-ups. Counselors from the SCORE's Lowell Chapter are available by appointment every Wednesday. To learn more or to make an appointment: www.scorenemass.org/

SCORE

88 Middle Street, 2nd Floor

978-922-9441

info@scorenemass.org

U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) / Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs):

Provides free technical assistance to small businesses and start-ups. For more information:

Northeast Regional Office

Salem State University

Enterprise Center

121 Loring Ave, Ste. 310

Salem, MA

978-542-6343

www.sbdc.salemstate.edu

U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) / Women's Business Centers (WBC) program is a network of over 100 community-based centers that provide business training, counseling, and mentoring geared towards women, particularly women who are socially and economically in disadvantage. For more information: <http://www.cweonline.org>

Central Massachusetts

Center of Women & Enterprises (CWE)

50 Elm St., 2nd floor

Worcester, MA

Info-worcester@cweonline.org

If you are a veteran or a service-disabled veteran, the **U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)** offers specific programs to assist your small business. You'll need to certify your small business as **Veteran-Owned** or **Service Disabled Veteran-Owned** so you can take advantage of these resources designed especially for you.

The SBA established the **Veterans Business Outreach Program (VBOP)** through a network of over 16 Veterans Business Outreach Centers (VBOC) across the Country. These resource centers are designed to provide entrepreneurial development services such as business training, counseling and mentoring, and referrals for eligible veterans owning or considering starting a small business. For more information: <http://www.nevbrc.org/>

The Northeast Veteran Business Resource Center

617-938-3933

info@nevbrc.org